



To Mr. Hoag

On His Ninetieth Birthday, February 10, 1921

As on the flow'ry Latmian crest  
Endymion ever young reposes,  
With crystal dreams by Phoebe bless'd,  
And wreath'd in never-dying roses;  
So, Scriba, thou, whose poet-eyes  
Have dwelt aloft in raptures rarest,  
And won like favours from the skies,  
At ninety still youth's garland wearest!

Methinks I see thee where the moon  
On faery slopes sends down her splendour;  
That realm of sempiternal June,  
Peopled by fauns and oreads tender,  
Which sleeps unalter'd and unvex'd,  
Tho' with vast ills and changes direst  
The world of waking be perplexed—  
That fancy-heaven of the lyrist!

In such an aether dost thou dream  
Irradiate traceries to hear hither,  
Rewarded by the boon supreme—  
A spirit that may never wither;  
The years float by caressingly,  
Bestowing gifts but never robbing;  
And now the ninetieth leaves thee free,  
Thy heart with youthful ardor throbbing.

Thus will it be in future time,  
Thy presence ever luminous beaming,  
The while thou tell'st in beryl rhyme  
The winsome wonders of thy dreaming;

The queen of night thy path will strew  
With blossoms from the bow'rs Elysian,  
And thou wilt sing amidst the dew,  
Rose-crowned and young, a fadeless vision!

H. P. Lovecraft.



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